

REMARKS

Claims 1-42 are pending. By this Amendment, Claims 1, 2, 5, 6, and 14 are amended and Claim 18 is cancelled, thereby leaving Claims 3, 4, 7-13, 15-17, and 19-42 unchanged.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b)

Claims 1 and 3-6 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 4,190,221 (“Updike”). Claims 1-42 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by United States Patent No. 4,856,253 (“Jou”). Reconsideration of the rejections is respectfully requested.

Independent Claim 1

Independent Claim 1 defines a hanger for supporting a device, the hanger comprising a housing having a face positioned substantially vertically, a nonlinear slot cut into the face, the slot having a first end and a second end, the first end being closed and the second end being opened, and slot branches diverging from the slot and terminating in closed ends.

Updike does not teach or suggest a hanger including, among other things, a slot having a first end and a second end and slot branches diverging from the slot and terminating in closed ends. Rather, the bracket 510 of Updike includes a channel 530 extending through the bracket 510 and having a continuous path between an open end or hole and a closed end 538. For these and other reasons, Updike does not teach or suggest all the claim limitations of independent Claim 1.

Jou does not teach or suggest a hanger including, among other things, a face positioned substantially vertically and a nonlinear slot cut into the face. In addition, Jou does not teach or suggest slot branches diverging from the slot and terminating in closed ends. Rather, Jou discloses a fixed element 3 having a base portion, outwardly extending lips 32, and a horizontally extending channel defined between the base portion and the outwardly extending lips 32. Moreover, the path extending outwardly from the base of the fixing element 3 extends linearly outwardly between the ends of the outwardly extending lips 32. Similarly, the main element 1 of Jou includes an inner side and downwardly extending side walls which define a linear channel. The grooves 12, 13 positioned along the side wall of the main element 1 of Jou are also linear. Viewed differently, the channel extending across the front face (shown in Fig. 1)

of the main element 1 extends between an open end, which is defined between the engaging member 11 and an adjacent wall, and a closed end formed by the left side wall of the main element 1. A single groove 12 provides the only deviation from the continuous path between the opened end of the channel and the closed end of the channel. For these and other reasons, Jou does not teach or suggest all the claim limitations of independent Claim 1.

Accordingly, independent Claim 1 is allowable. Claims 2-4 and 31-36 depend from independent Claim 1 and are allowable for the same and other reasons.

Independent Claim 5

Independent Claim 5 defines a hanger for supporting a device, the hanger comprising a face lying in a substantially vertical plane positioned substantially vertically and at least partially defining a receiving area, a substantially vertical slot cut into the face, the slot having a first end and a second end, the first end being closed and the second end opening into the receiving area, and at least one substantially vertical slot branch extending from the slot at an acute angle and having a closed end, the at least one slot branch having a substantially constant width that is substantially the same as the width of the slot.

Updike does not teach or suggest a hanger including, among other things, a face lying in a substantially vertical plane positioned substantially vertically and at least partially defining a receiving area. Rather, the area of Updike identified by the Examiner as “a receiving area” is located in a different plane than and behind the face plate 518 of Updike. In addition, Updike does not teach or suggest a hanger including a substantially vertical slot cut into the face and at least one substantially vertical slot branch extending from the slot at an acute angle. Rather, the bracket 510 of Updike includes a channel 530 extending through the bracket 510 and having a continuous path between an open end or hole and a closed end 538. For these and other reasons, Updike does not teach or suggest all the claim limitations of independent Claim 5.

Jou does not teach or suggest, among other things, a hanger including a slot having a first end and a second end and at least one substantially vertical slot branch extending from the slot at an acute angle and having a closed end, the at least one slot branch having a substantially constant width that is substantially the same as the width of the slot. Rather, the channel extending across the front face (shown in Fig. 1) of the main element 1 extends between an open end, which is defined between the engaging member 11 and an adjacent wall, and a closed end

formed by the left side wall of the main element. A single groove 12 provides the only deviation from the continuous path between the opened end of the channel and the closed end of the channel. Moreover, the groove 12 is significantly narrower than the channel. For these and other reasons, Jou does not teach or suggest all the claim limitations of independent Claim 5.

Accordingly, independent Claim 5 is allowable.

Independent Claim 6

Independent Claim 6 defines an electronic device for mounting on a substantially vertical surface, the electronic device comprising a front face, the front face including a display, a back face opposite the front face, the back face lying in a substantially vertical plane, and a top hanger formed on the back face, the top hanger including a substantially vertical hanger face and a nonlinear top slot formed in the hanger face, the hanger face at least partially defining a receiving area, the top slot having a substantially constant width and a first, closed end and a second, opened end, the second end opening into the top receiving area which is at least twice as wide as the top slot.

Updike does not teach or suggest an electronic device including, among other things, a front face, the front face including a display. Updike also does not teach or suggest a substantially vertical hanger face and a nonlinear top slot formed in the hanger face, the hanger face at least partially defining a receiving area. Rather, the area of Updike identified by the Examiner as “a receiving area” is located in a different plane than and behind the face plate 518 of Updike. For these and other reasons, Updike does not teach or suggest all the claim limitations of independent Claim 6.

Jou does not teach or suggest an electronic device including, among other things, a front face, the front face including a display. Jou also does not teach or suggest a top hanger including a substantially vertical hanger face and a nonlinear top slot formed in the hanger face, the hanger face at least partially defining a receiving area, the top slot having a substantially constant width and a first, closed end and a second, opened end. Rather, the channel extending across the front face (shown in Fig. 1) of the main element 1 of Jou extends between an open end, which is defined between the engaging member 11 and an adjacent wall, and a closed end formed by the left side wall of the main element. If Applicant understands the Examiner correctly, the Examiner is suggesting that the main element 1 of Jou also includes a “receiving area”.

However, to read Jou as mentioned above, the “channel opening” must be defined between the engaging member 11 and the adjacent wall and any “receiving area” would have to be positioned exterior to the main element 1. Applicant respectfully submits that Jou does not teach or suggest such a receiving area. Viewed differently, if the “receiving area” is defined between the lower end of the engaging member 11 and the adjacent wall, any channel extending from the receiving area to a “closed end” would be substantially linear.

In addition, Jou does not teach or suggest a second end of a nonlinear top slot opening into a top receiving area that is at least twice as wide as the top slot. Rather, the channel defined by the main element 1 has a substantially constant width along its entire length. For these and other reasons, Jou does not teach or suggest all the claim limitations of independent Claim 6. Accordingly, independent Claim 6 is allowable. Claims 7-13 depend from independent Claim 6 and are allowable for the same and other reasons.

Independent Claim 14

Independent Claim 14 defines a hanger for supporting a device, the hanger comprising a housing having a hanger face positioned substantially vertically, the hanger face being spaced-apart from a back face of the device by a sidewall, a chamber formed behind the hanger face and substantially surrounded by the sidewall, a nonlinear slot cut into the hanger face, the slot lying substantially in a vertical plane defined by the hanger face and opening at one end into a receiving area, and at least two flanges, one on each side of the receiving area and angled in toward the open end of the slot.

Jou does not teach or suggest, among other things, a housing having a hanger face positioned substantially vertically, a nonlinear slot cut into the hanger face, the slot lying substantially in a vertical plane defined by the hanger face and opening at one end into a receiving area, and at least two flanges, one on each side of the receiving area and angled in toward the open end of the slot. Rather, the channel extending across the front face (shown in Fig. 1) of the main element 1 of Jou extends between an open end, which is defined between the engaging member 11 and an adjacent wall, and a closed end formed by the left side wall of the main element. If Applicant understands the Examiner correctly, the Examiner is suggesting that the main element 1 of Jou also includes a “receiving area”. However, to read Jou as mentioned above, the “channel opening” must be defined between the engaging member 11 and the adjacent

wall and any “receiving area” would have to be positioned exterior to the main element 1. Applicant respectfully submits that Jou does not teach or suggest such a receiving area. Viewed differently, if the “receiving area” is defined between the lower end of the engaging member 11 and the adjacent wall, any channel extending from the receiving area to a “closed end” would be substantially linear. For these and other reasons, Jou does not teach or suggest all the claim limitations of independent Claim 1.

Accordingly, independent Claim 14 is allowable. Claims 15-17 and 37-42 depend from independent Claim 14 and are allowable for the same and other reasons.

Independent Claim 19

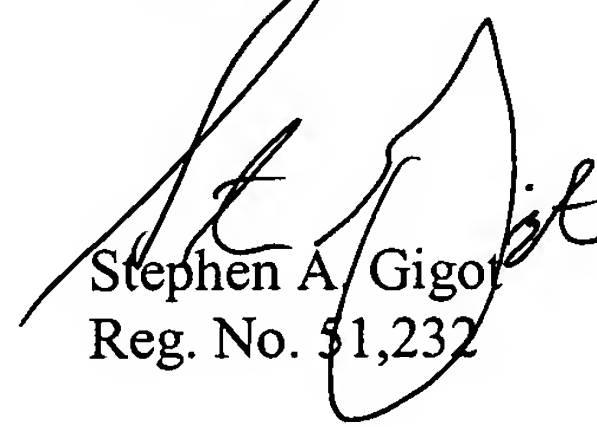
Independent Claim 19 defines a hanger for supporting a device on a projection extending outwardly from a wall, the hanger comprising a housing having a hanger face, the hanger face defining a substantially planar hanger face surface, and a nonlinear slot extending into the hanger face and lying in the planar hanger face surface and being engageable with the projection to secure the device to the wall, the slot defining an entry path for the projection, an exit path for the projection, and at least one locking path for the projection, the locking path being different than the exit path.

Jou does not teach or suggest a hanger including, among other things, a slot defining an entry path for the projection, an exit path for the projection, and at least one locking path for the projection, the locking path being different than the exit path. Rather, when the engagement member 11 of Jou is connected to the fixing element, the engagement member 11 is inserted along a path defined between the lips 32. If the engagement member 11 can be removed after having been connected to the fixing element 3, the engagement member 11 would have to be moved outwardly and away from the fixing element 3 along the same path. As shown in Fig. 5 of Jou, after the engaging member 11 is inserted between the lips 32, the lips 32 would prevent any other such movement of the engaging member 11 with respect to the fixing element 3. For these and other reasons, Jou does not teach or suggest all the claim limitations of independent Claim 19. Accordingly, independent Claim 19 is allowable. Claims 20-30 depend from independent Claim 19 and are allowable for the same and other reasons.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, entry of the present Amendment and allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,


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